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8	BEFORE THE
9	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
10	STATE OF CALIFORNIA
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. 2011-203
12	PATROCINIA BARRERA ABOY
13	1213 Resplandor Way Oxnard, CA 93030 A C C U S A T I O N
14	Registered Nursing License No. 259335
15	
16	Respondent.
17	
18	Complainant alleges:
19	<u>PARTIES</u>
20	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her
21	official capacity as the Interim Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Departmen
22	of Consumer Affairs.
23	2. On or about August 31, 1975, the Board of Registered Nursing (Board) issued
24	Registered Nursing License No. 259335 to Patrocinia Barrera Aboy (Respondent). The license
25	was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on
26	June 30, 2011, unless renewed.
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#### JURISDICTION

3. This Accusation is brought before the Board, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.

### STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. Section 490 states:
- "(a) In addition to any other action that a board is permitted to take against a licensee, a board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued.
- "(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a board may exercise any authority to discipline a licensee for conviction of a crime that is independent of the authority granted under subdivision (a) only if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the licensee's license was issued.
- "(c) A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action that a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code."

#### 5. Section 2750 states:

"Every certificate holder or licensee, including licensees holding temporary licenses, or licensees holding licenses placed in an inactive status, may be disciplined as provided in this article [Article 3 of the Nursing Practice Act (Bus. & Prof Code, § 2700 et seq.)]. As used in this article, "license" includes certificate, registration, or any other authorization to engage in practice regulated by this chapter. The proceedings under this article shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code [the Administrative Procedure Act], and the board shall have all the powers granted therein."

2.7

#### 6. Section 2761 states:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- "(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- "(1) Incompetence, or gross negligence in carrying out usual certified or licensed nursing functions.

. . . .

"(4) Denial of licensure, revocation, suspension, restriction, or any other disciplinary action against a health care professional license or certificate by another state or territory of the United States, by any other government agency, or by another California health care professional licensing board. A certified copy of the decision or judgment shall be conclusive evidence of that action.

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"(d) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violating of, or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act] or regulations adopted pursuant to it.

"(f) Conviction of a felony or of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof."

#### 7. Section 2765 states:

"A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere made to a charge substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of a registered nurse is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this article. The board may order the license or certificate suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a license or certificate, when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing such person

to withdraw his or her plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information or indictment."

#### REGULATORY PROVISIONS

8. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, states:

"A conviction or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the present or potential unfitness of a registered nurse to practice in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare. . ."

## **COST RECOVERY**

9. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

### FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Conviction of Substantially Related Crime)

- 10. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under Business & Professions Code sections 490 and 2761, subdivision (f), in conjunction with section 2765 and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, in that Respondent was convicted of a felonious crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse which to a substantial degree evidence her present or potential unfitness to practice as a registered nurse in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare, as follows:
- a. On or about September 28, 2005, after pleading guilty, Respondent was convicted of one felony count of violating Penal Code section 368, subdivision (b)(1) [Elder abuse resulting in death], in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California vs. Patrocinia Barrera Aboy* (Super. Ct. Ventura County, 2005, No. 2005012302). Respondent was sentenced to formal probation for a period of 36 months with certain terms and conditions including fines. Respondent was also ordered to complete 400 hours of Direct Work, pay \$1,681.99 in victim

restitution, pay \$200 to the State Restitution Fund, and not own, operate or be employed by any board and care facility designed to provide care to elderly or other individuals.

b. The circumstances surrounding the conviction are that on or about May 29, 2004, Respondent was licensed to operate a residential care facility for the elderly. The victim was an elderly patient at Respondent's residential care facility for the elderly and whose death was a result of neglect under Respondent's care.

### SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Discipline by Another State Agency)

11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761, subdivision (a)(4), in that Respondent was disciplined by another state agency. Respondent was licensed and certified to be an Administrator of residential care facilities for the elderly, which is regulated by the California Department of Social Services. Respondent's license to operate residential care facilities for the elderly was revoked in 2006 for numerous violations of Health & Safety Codes by the California Department of Social Services.

### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

#### (Unprofessional Conduct)

12. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761, subdivision (a) and / or (d), in that Respondent committed acts of unprofessional conduct and/or violated provisions of the Nursing Practice Act. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraph 10, subparagraphs (a) and (b), inclusive, as though set forth fully.

#### <u>PRAYER</u>

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nursing License No. 259335, issued to Patrocinia Barrera Aboy;

Interim Executive Officer
Board of Registered Nursing
Department of Consumer Affairs